HOUSE No. 925

By Mr. Quinn of Dartmouth, petition of John F. Quinn relative to confidentiality of documents within and access to CORI data by the Division of Banks. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS WITHIN AND ACCESS TO CORI DATA BY THE DIVISION OF BANKS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 172 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as
- 2 appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
- 3 adding the following paragraph:—
- 4 The division of banks shall be deemed to be a criminal justice
- 5 agency under section 172 of chapter 6 for the purposes of its
- 6 examinations under section 2 of chapter 167, and its licensing and
- 7 examinations or inspections under sections 24-28 of chapter 93;
- 8 sections 96-114A of chapter 140; section 4 of chapter 167F; and
- 9 chapters 169, 169A, 255B, 255C, 255D, and 255E.
- 1 SECTION 2. Section 24 of chapter 93 of the General Laws, as
- 2 appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
- 3 inserting after the first paragraph the following two paragraphs:—
- 4 The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such
- 5 examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All
- 6 records of investigations and reports of examinations by the com-
- 7 missioner, including workpapers, information derived from such
- 8 reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the
- 9 possession of any institution under the supervision of the commis-
- 10 sioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall
- 11 not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the
- 12 purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of
- 13 examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of

14 examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the fed-15 eral government and any other state, and of any foreign govern-16 ment which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign 17 government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, or other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under his supervision as he deems appropriate. 31

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thouand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year or both.

SECTION 3. Section 24B of said chapter 93, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following:— The commissioner may require such financial statements and references of all applicants for a license as he deems necessary and may make an investigation or cause an independent investigation to be made concerning the applicant's reputation, integrity and net worth; provided, however, that if such required information, whether for initial licensing or any renewal thereof, includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, any such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of section 66.

SECTION 4. Section 97 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "licensee" in line 8 and inserting in place thereof the following:— "licensee; provided, however, that if such required information, whether for initial licensing or any renewal thereof, includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66."; and inserting after the first paragraph the following two paragraphs:—

The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such 10 examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All 11 records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such 13 reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the 14 possession of any institution under the supervision of the commis-16 sioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the 17 purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the federal government and any other state, and of any foreign government which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed 27 and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under 37 his supervision as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or 40 agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them

- 41 relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee,
- 42 and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without
- 43 justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or
- 44 obstructs the person making such examination in the performance
- 45 of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thou-
- 46 sand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.

SECTION 5. Section 2 of chapter 167 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the sixth paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such 5 6 examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the 10 possession of any institution under the supervision of the commissioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall 12 not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the 13 purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of 14 examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of 15 examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the fed-16 eral government and any other state, and of any foreign government which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign 18 government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective 19 order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the pro-24 ceeding at which any such record is disclosed.

SECTION 6. Section 4 of Chapter 167F of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "person" in line 19 and inserting in place thereof the following:—
4 "person; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure

7 pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66."; and by inserting after the 8 fourth paragraph the following two paragraphs:—

The commissioner shall examine any such person, to whom any 10 such certificate to engage in the business of selling, issuing or registering checks or money orders has been issued, as he deems necessary and in a manner he deems appropriate. The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any insti-18 tution under the supervision of the commissioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the federal government and any other state, and of any foreign government which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any pro-27 ceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at 32 which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under his supervision 40 as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without

- 46 justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or
- 47 obstructs the person making such examination in the performance
- 48 of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thou-
- 49 sand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.

SECTION 7. Section 6 of chapter 169 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:— Further such application shall include a description of the activities of the applicant, in such detail and for such periods as the commissioner may require, and such further information as the commissioner may require; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports,

9 such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to dis-

10 closure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66.

SECTION 8. Section 10 of chapter 169, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the second paragraph the following two paragraphs:—

4 The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such 5 examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All 6 records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such 8 reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any institution under the supervision of the commis-10 sioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of 13 examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of 14 examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the fed-15 eral government and any other state, and of any foreign government which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of 20 any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed 22 and that the public be excluded from any portion of the pro-23 ceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such

24 reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use

25 only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization

26 or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner.

27 The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory

28 agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign

29 countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information,

30 reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under

31 his supervision as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thouand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.

SECTION 9. Section 3 of chapter 169A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "unit" in line 14 and inserting in place thereof the following:— unit; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66.

SECTION 10. Section 10 of chapter 169A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following two paragraphs:—

The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any institution under the supervision of the commissioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the fed-

14 eral government and any other state, and of any foreign govern-15 ment which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In 17 any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under his supervision as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.

SECTION 11. Section 2 of chapter 255B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "seven" in line 13 and inserting in place thereof the following:— seven; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66.

SECTION 12. Section 3 of Chapter 255B, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following two paragraphs:—

4 The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such 5 examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All records of investigations and reports of examinations by the com-7 missioner, including workpapers, information derived from such reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any institution under the supervision of the commissioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the fed-15 eral government and any other state, and of any foreign government which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign 17 government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In 18 any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. 27 The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under 31 his supervision as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year. SECTION 13. Section 3 of chapter 255C of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "seven" in line 5 and inserting in place thereof the following:— seven; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66.

SECTION 14. Section 6 of chapter 255C, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:—

4 The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such 5 examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such 8 reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any institution under the supervision of the commis-10 sioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the 12 purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of 13 examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of 14 examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the federal government and any other state, and of any foreign govern-16 ment which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In 17 18 any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of 19 any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization 26 or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, 30 reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under 31 his supervision as he deems appropriate.

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The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thouand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.

SECTION 15. Section 2 of chapter 255D of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "determine" in line 9 and inserting in place thereof the following:— determine; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66.

SECTION 16. Section 3 of chapter 255D of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following two paragraphs:—

The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All 6 records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any institution under the supervision of the commissioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the federal government and any other state, and of any foreign govern-16 ment which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective 19 order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of 20 any such record and other than any such record on file with the 21 court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under his supervision as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thouand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.

SECTION 17. Section 3 of chapter 255E of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the word "require" in line 9 and inserting in place thereof the following:—4 require; provided, however, that if such required information includes the applicant's tax returns or credit reports, such documents shall not constitute a public record subject to disclosure pursuant to section 10 of chapter 66.

SECTION 18. Section 8 of chapter 255E, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following two paragraphs:—

The commissioner shall preserve a full record of each such examination of a bank including a statement of its condition. All records of investigations and reports of examinations by the commissioner, including workpapers, information derived from such reports or responses to such reports, and any copies thereof in the possession of any institution under the supervision of the commissioner, shall be confidential and privileged communications, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be made public. For the purposes of this paragraph, records of investigation and reports of

12 examinations shall include records of investigation and reports of 13 examinations conducted by any bank regulatory agency of the fed-14 eral government and any other state, and of any foreign government which are considered confidential by such agency or foreign government and which are in possession of the commissioner. In any proceeding before a court, the court may issue a protective order in appropriate circumstances to protect the confidentiality of any such record and other than any such record on file with the court or filed in connection with the court proceeding be sealed and that the public be excluded from any portion of the proceeding at which any such record is disclosed. Copies of such 23 reports of examination shall be furnished to a licensee for its use only and shall not be exhibited to any other person, organization or agency without prior written approval by the commissioner. The commissioner may, in his discretion, furnish to regulatory agencies of the federal government, of other states, or of foreign countries, and any law enforcement agency, such information, reports, inspections and statements relating to the licensees under his supervision as he deems appropriate.

The commissioner, or his examiners or such others of his assistants as he may designate, may summon the directors, officers or agents of a licensee, or any other witnesses, and examine them relative to the affairs, transactions and condition of the licensee, and, for that purpose, may administer oaths. Whoever, without justifiable cause, refuses to appear and testify when so required or obstructs the person making such examination in the performance of his duty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year.